

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 844

By Turner M

A RESOLUTION to honor Representative Michael McDonald for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this body should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost probity, and whose efforts during their time in office have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their district and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Michael Ray "Mike" McDonald is one such distinguished public servant who has served both his constituency and this legislative body with honor and distinction as a House member of the 99th through the 107th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Mike McDonald has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of House District 44, who have evinced their firm belief in Representative McDonald's abilities as a legislator by electing him to serve eight terms as their representative, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, Mike McDonald was born in Nashville on February 21, 1949, received a Bachelor of Arts degree from David Lipscomb College, and earned both his Master of Arts in Speech Communication and Doctor of Philosophy in Speech Communication from the University of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, a respected farmer and educator, Mike McDonald taught classes for twenty-four years as professor of communications at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin while also holding the position of chairman of the communications department for thirteen years. He spent five years on the faculty at Austin Peay State University, where he served as the director of debate; and

WHEREAS, as an active and dynamic participant in the legislative process, Representative McDonald currently renders sterling service as a member of the Conservation and Environment Committee, the Transportation Committee, the General Subcommittee of Transportation, and the Join Worker's Comp Committee; and

WHEREAS, during his legislative career Representative McDonald has capably served as a member of the Education Committee, the Transportation Committee, the Conservation and Environment Committee, the Calendar and Rules Committee, the Consumer and Employee Affairs Committee, and the Finance, Ways and Means Committee; and

WHEREAS, Representative McDonald served with distinction as the chair of the Consumer and Employee Affairs Committee during the 105th General Assembly, chair of the Environment Subcommittee of the 103rd General Assembly, and as vice chair of the Conservation and Environment Committee of the 103rd and 104th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Representative McDonald held the leadership post of Majority Whip of the 100th, 101st, and 102nd General Assemblies and served as Assistant Majority Whip during the 99th General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, a remarkable individual who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, Representative McDonald has graciously donated his time and energies to many community and civic organizations, including Bledsoe's Lick Historical Association, Historic Cragfont, Inc., the Sumner County Museum Association, the Sumner Historical Society, and the Sumner County Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Gallatin, Portland, Westmoreland, and White House Chambers of Commerce, Representative McDonald is also a member of the Tennessee Farm Bureau, the Tennessee State Employees Association, and the Tennessee International Trade and Export Development Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Representative McDonald received the 2008 Lindquist Environmental Appalachian Fellowship Genesis Award and the Promethean Energy Award for Outstanding Public Service from the Tennessee Trust for the Future in 2007 in addition to being named the 2009 Legislator of the Year by the Greater Nashville Regional

Council, 2008 Tennessee Wildlife Federation Conservation Legislator of the Year, the 2008 Tennessee AFL-CIO Legislator of the Year, and a Tennessee Conservation Voters Legislative Hero from 2004 to 2010; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in the General Assembly he has been honored with the 2001 Outstanding Representative of the Year Award from the County Officials Association, the Tennessee Sheriffs Association Legislative Award in 1997, the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association Legislative Excellence Award in 2002, the Sierra Club of Tennessee Appreciation Award in 2002, and the Education Leadership Award from the Tennessee School Board Association in 1996; and

WHEREAS, a 1981 recipient of the Outstanding Young Man of America Award, Mike McDonald has also garnered the Conservation Progress Award, the Volunteer State Community College Outstanding Faculty Award, and the City of White House Award in recognition of Outstanding Public Service, Leadership, and Devotion to Office; and

WHEREAS, Representative McDonald is recognized throughout the great State of Tennessee as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience with the interest of the good people of House District 44 in his heart; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career as a public servant, Mike McDonald has worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents, bringing to his office an honorable bearing and the traditional values of hard work and common sense; and

WHEREAS, his many civic and professional accomplishments aside, Mike McDonald is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Mila, and their two children, Amy and Lance; and

WHEREAS, Representative Michael Ray McDonald is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized for his distinguished tenure in this body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Representative Michael Ray "Mike" McDonald for his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly, commend him for his

countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of the 44th House District, and extend to him our best wishes for much success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.